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(14)

R E V I E W

O F

What God hath been pleased to do This Year,

According to *PROPHECY*;

And particularly near the 23^d of the Month we stile *August*;

I N T H E

General Peace, and the *Muscovian* and *Imperi-*
al Victories over the *Turks*.

W I T H

A most Humble *Apology* and *Defence* concern-
ing the falling short of Events, of what was expe-
cted according to the Interpretation of that true
Word of Prophecy.

By T. BEVERLEY.

Psal. 111. 2.

*The Works of the Lord are great, sought out of All who have plea-
sure therein.*

L O N D O N :

Printed for William Marshal at the Bible in Newgate-street, and John Mar-
shal at the Bible in Grace-Church-Street. MDCXCVIII.

REVIEW

A

When God hath said to do this Year

According to PROPHECY

And particularly here to a great degree we have

General Peace and the Affluence and Liberty
of Mankind over the World



A most humble and devout concern
ing the falling short of what is
fitted according to the last mentioned
Word of Prophecy

BY T. BARNARD

The Works of the Learned and Reverend
Father in Christ

LONDON

Printed for William Woodcock at the
Sign of the Ship in St. Dunstons Church Lane

TO THE
RIGHT HONOURABLE
Sir Humfry Edwyn,
LORD MAYOR
Of the City of L O N D O N.

My Lord,

I Have observed, The supreme Providence, hath Placed you in the most Eminent *Magistracy* of this *Great City*, in Two Extraordinary Years, Engraven upon with Illustrious Appearances of his own Hand ; Your *Sherivalry*, as I have been assured in the Year 88, The Year of the so Great *Revolution* in these Nations ; and your Lordships *Mayoralty* Enters in this Year of the *Peace*, and the so *Grand Victory* of the *Imperial Army* over the *Mahometan, Turkish Signory* ; and both so close together, and at a Time, as I apprehend, well known to *Prophecy*: I have therefore thought it my Duty, Humbly to present the following *Review* of both

to your Lordship, as in so High a Station, This so Great Year: And yet, if God hath Graciously led me into the true Interpretation of his Sure Word of Prophecy, This is but small in Comparison of your Authority, Extending it self into the much Greater Year 98; As I hope it will be found; In which your Sword shall be born before the Prince of Princes, the King of Kings and Lords of Lords, the Prince of the Kings of the Earth; I mean not in His Personal Appearance, as many either Ignorantly, or wilfully mistake; but in Regard of the Glorious Manifestation of His Kingdom Bringing its Succession; which will not Lessen but Aggrandize both Royal and Magistratical Honour, and Authority, that Kisses the Son, and does Homage to This Supreme; and will not in the least give Countenance to Anarchy, Confusion, or Resistance to that Ordinance of God by either *Levelling* or *Rebellion*; but Conciliate the most Holy, Humble and Pious subjection to Authority so Enstamp'd from Heaven, as then it will be.

I have taken Notice by General Discourse, Your Lordship in your Publick Attendance on the Worship of God, appears to Desire the Reconciliation of Protestants, whether under those undesirable, and, as too much managed, unkind distinctions of *Episcopacy*, *Presbytery*, or *Congregational Union*.

I hope, It is, as Falling out this Year, not without happy Presages of that Blessed *Philadelphian* Church State speedily about to enter; in which all such Names of difference will be lost in both the Purity and Love, that will govern them in the Succession of that Kingdom; And as I have
some

some Years ago Forreld; That the Cathedral of Pauls, (as we
call it) whose Loughy Pile; which Providence seems to
have allowed the Preparation of, for the National Solemn
Acknowledgements of God in the Peace, wherein your
Lordship will bear such a Figure, shall yet, (I am perswad-
ed) speedily with those Names of Prelation and Presidency in
it, that have their only Basis in that Antiquity, wherein the
Synagogue of Satan began to have the ascendancy, and not
in pure Scripture-Antiquity, Bow Themselves at the
Foot of that Philadelphian State, and Acknowledge, Christ hath
Loved and Chosen it; or else both the Prelacy and the Cathe-
drams will suffer Abrogation, and become useless;

There is one thing more, I Congratulate to your Lord-
ship this Year of your To eminent Magistracy in; And that
is, An appearance of Zeal for the Retrenchment and Ex-
tirpation of open Prophaneſs, Irreligion, and Lewdneſs of
Manners: I cannot but have an Honour for any ſuch un-
dertaking, and beſeech of God his preſence with it, and
Bleſſing upon it; So far as it bears, but a deſire to prepare for,
(if I may ſo allude) a Temple for God in the Nation; and I
doubt not. It will have the aſſiſtance of your Authority, and
other the Religious Participants of your Government; But yet
I cannot but hope, Our Greater Solomon will be ſupreme in the
Adminiſtration, and Raiſe it much higher then Man can do.

My Lord. As to my ſelf, I cannot claim any particular
Knowledge of, or Intereſt in you; but looking upon your
Magiſtracy in 88, and 98, as Honoured with a Prophetick-
neſs, I have on that Account taken the boldneſs to In-
ſcribe your Name, and I do very humbly beſeech your

The Epistle Dedicatory.

Patronage of this Review under its Great Patron, and the acceptance of this Dedication; Till it shall be able, as I hope, it will within few Months be, to Answer for it self to all that shall send to it or ask a Reason of its Hope; as owned by that Higher Patronage, publickly in the Eyes of all. In the mean time, as I most humbly beg the Prayers of all, who Love the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ; So my most Fer-vent and Earnest supplications shall be for the Magistracy of this Great City, and their as Honourable Station in the King-
dom of Christ; and most particularly for your Lordship.

My Lord,

Your Lordships,

Mo. 9. D. 12th.
1697.

Most Humble Servant,

In that Kingdom,

THO. BEVERLEY.

An earnest Invitation, and Perswasion to All, that profess a Reverence of the Divine Majesty, to Regard the Works of the Lord; and to take Pleasure in Searching them out in their Greatness, particularly this Year; By way of Preface to the following Discourse.

SEeing this Review rests upon the very Eminent Appearances of God in this present Year 1697, I think it no way Improper to prefix a serious perswasive, deeply to consider the *Operations of the Divine Hand*, and to *search them out, as Hidden Treasures*.

It is the *Atheism*, and Irreverence of the Divine Being, and his Government of the World, that we Lavish out his Great Providences into no other Discourses, but as of News; This is not the Business of a serious Christian, and of those who have the Assistance of *Sacred History*, directing us what observations to make upon those works; and the *Sure Word of Prophecy* Guiding us, what we are to expect, by due Reflexion, on what God hath done according to *Prophecy*, to what he will do to the End of the World: It is not enough for us with a shew of Great Wisdom and Foresight, to Dilate upon the Political Tendencies of Great Events, lest we Fall into the *Hypocrisy* of the *Pharisees*, who were able to make Natural observations on the Face of the Heavens, but could not *Discern the signs of the Times*: We ought as to make Improvement of Mercies, and Judgments, to *search and try our ways*, and to turn unto the Lord; to *Praise Him for his wonderful Works to the Children of Men*; So to *Understand as the Sons of Issachar the Times*, that we may know what *Israel ought to do*; how to order our Supplications, and Declarations of the Hand of God; For all his Servants are yet *Witnesses in Saekcloth*, who have power to *smite the Antichristian Earth with Plagues*, as often, as they will; And it is their Duty at all Times to will to do it; to *Prophecy to Prophecy*, as God Commanded *Ezekiel*, That is, with Resolution, and Constancy to declare the Judgments of God on the *Antichristian Papacy*; and to *shoot with the Arrow of the Lords Deliverance*, not Twice or Thrice, but Seven Times to its utter Ruine; and to *Give no Rest to our God*, Till He make *Jerusalem a Praise in the Earth*. It is the Great Sin of Protestants, they do neither at this Time, with Becoming Zeal.

I will therefore present, as under one view, the Great Works of God this Year, that are more Largely Discours'd in the following Treatise, and with some Remarks, that have not been made therein.

1. The Peace in these *European Nations* Signed the very Day of the Ancient *Attonement*, and *Jubilee*, and the *Emperors* Entry into it on the Day of *Luthers* Publication of his Gospel-*Editions* in the First opening of this *Reformation* 1517; Oh! That as that was in the Beginning of *Half Time*, so there may be at this End of it, a far *Higher Jubilee and Reformation*.

2. The *Turkish* so wonderful Defeat, as struck with a Divine Terror, so upon the *Prophetical Hour* of *Armistice*, and it still continuing, Answering the Beginning of the *Beasts* Forty-two *Months*; and so, I hope, at this Time declaring His End.

3. The Prince of *Muscovies* so *Glorious Efforts*, upon whom the Spirit of God hath appeared to *Come*, as on some of the worthies of *Old*; and by his Particular Love to *Protestant* Princes, as if He were the *First Fruits* of the *Grecian Churches*, and to be an Avenger of them on the *Ottoman Power*.

4. The Dawns of the Kingdom of Christ in any Beginnings of his Spirit found out, Zeal for *Reformation*; and Particularly in *Ireland*, where God hath by that *Parliament* Vindicated the Contempt thrown upon that Honourable Word of the *New Testament*; *Mystery*; I hope, because *Finishing Mystery*, as He hath *Evangelized* by His Servants the *Prophets* is so near;

And the Accumulation of his Great Works in All these things, on the later part of this Year, Gives Hopes, He is making haste with his Greater Works in the End of this, and the Beginning of the Following Year.

The Instances against all this in the *Papish* continuing Grandeur, and its seeming to Increase, The *Electors* of *Saxony* under whose Ancestors, The *Reformation* found its First Protection, Giving back Himself, though not his Power as *Electors*, to the *Beast*; Any other Prince doing so, The suffering Witnesses in *France* and *Savoy*, not comprehended in, the *Protestant* Interest not sufficiently secured by the Peace, I hope, These are all only an Argument, The Great Prince of Princes is near to break all *Antichristian Power without Hand*, and that when, it Crys *Peace, Peace*, Its Plagues shall Come in one Hour.

And that *Man of sin* with that *Blasphemous Title*; His *Holliness*; shall be Thrown out of the Temple of God wherein He sits as God; by the Prayers of All Saints; and the Lord whom we seek, suddenly will come into His Temple.

Now to All these Great purposes, Let the Lord God of the Holy Prophets, the Amen, the Faithful Witness, the Blessed Spirit, as Seven Eyes of Wisdom and Horns of Power, Running through All the Earth, Appear for his Kingdom and Bless this Discourse, and Fulfil the Word of his most unworthy Servant. Amen and Amen.

A Review

Of what God hath been pleased to do this Year according to Prophecy, and particularly near the 22d of the Month we stile, August; with a most humble Apology and Defence concerning the falling short of Events, of what was expected according to the Interpretation of that sure Word of Prophecy.

HAVING made so Long, and Large Declarations of what I have drawn from the *Sure Word of Prophecy*, concerning this *Present Year 1697*. And particularly near the 22d of the Month we Call, *August*; And that nothing of so Great an Appearance hath yet been vouchsafed by our Good and Gracious God; It may be looked upon as my Duty, to make either an Humble Acknowledgment of my mistake, and the Deception, that the Just and Holy Lord hath left me to therein, or to offer some *Apology and Defence* for my self.

Now in the first Place, I would make the lowest and most self-abasing Acknowledgment; That I am most unworthy of any such Gracious Communication, or Manifestation from God in his Word; And most worthy, whom He should give up to Error and Mistake: And that therefore, It would be no wonder, nor any thing strange, If He in just Wrath and Displeasure have so left me; All I have to say, or plead against its being so, is Infinite Riches of Grace, Mercy and Compassion in Christ to the *Cheif of Sinners*.

But this being first Acknowledged, there is yet the Great Honour I owe to the Word of Truth, and to the weighty Reasons and Arguments I have derived from it; and the obligations that Lye upon me, to make the most Lowly and Thankful Declarations for any Communications of Light to me, and of what God hath been pleased to begin to do this Year, and so hath not left wholly exposed, what I have spoken with Relation to 97. I would render therefore the best Accounts I could, in Points of so Great weight and concernment to the Churches of Christ, and even to the World in General, and to my self in Particular.

God hath been pleas'd to do this Year, &c.

The General Proposal being then, to make a Review of this Year according to *Prophecy*; I would reduce the Discourse upon it to these four Heads.

1. To observe in a General way, and to Acknowledge Freely, what is most undeniably wanting in any thing, that hath yet come to pass, of the Great Expectations according to *Prophecy*, as yet in this 97.

2. To press notwithstanding; That due Confession and Adoration be made of, and to Divine Providence in what hath Eminently been done this Year, and upon the very Time according to *Prophecy*; And to enquire diligently into its agreement with *Prophecy*.

3. To consider what is to be expected, as Imported to us in that of our Lords Oath; That the *mystery* of God shall be finished in the Days of the *Seventh Angel*, when Rev. 10. 7. He shall Begin to sound, by observing the several Applications of the Word *Mystery* to Things in the New Testament; And shewing, that every one of those things shall have their Complement, and Finishing from the *Seventh Angel Beginning to sound*, Till the very *Kingdom of Christ*, and In it.

4. To offer the best Conciliating Apprehensions, and Hopes with Relation to Time, according to Scripture, and *Prophecy*, between the Failure of Expectation in 97; With what is to be Expected in 97 Ending, and 98 Beginning.

1. As to the first Head, I must Humbly and Freely Acknowledge, we do not yet behold the mighty effects of the *Spirit of Life* from God, upon the *Witnesses* in their sufferings under *Anti-christian* Powers; or the Universality of the *Witnesses* of Christ out of their *Sackcloth-state*, and *Mournful Prophecy* of the *Kingdom of Christ* in delay, and not yet being in its *Illustrious Appearance*: They have yet the *Scale* of Concealment on their *Foreheads*, and do not yet stand on *Mount Zion* with the *Lamb*, having his *Fathers Name* Conspicuously written on those very *Foreheads*, where the *Seal* was before. That is, there is not yet that *Pouring out of the Spirit*; They are not yet publicly justified, as the *Witnesses* of Christ along the 1260 Years.

2. That the *Stone* cut out of the *Mountains*, that is not in *Humane Hands*; That is; That doth his Great Works immediately by himself, in breaking the *Image* of the *Four Monarchies* in the last of them, and himself becoming a *Great Mountain* filling the whole *Earth*, hath not yet thus appear'd; must also be confessed.

3. That therefore the *Antichristian*, and the *Mahometan State* joyn'd with it, tho as a woe upon it, are not so broken yet, as that the *Kingdoms of this World* should by the *Ten Kings* being overcome by the *Lamb*, be Proclaimed to be become the *Kingdoms of the Lord*, and of his *Christ*, and He himself Universally Acknowledged *King of Kings*, and *Lord of Lords*, and his *witnesses with Him*, Called, *Chosen*, *Faithful*, and known to be so. All which I had Hoped and Expected, should have come to pass in this Year 97: and in the *Prophetical Hour*, Viz. In the latter part of the Month *August*: Herein therefore and thus far, I most willingly and humbly Acknowledge my *Fault* and *Mistake*: I come therefore to the Second Head, and that is to observe; how far God hath been pleas'd to own his unworthiest Servant this Year, and in the very time of the Year, in the Interpretation of *Prophecy*.

And there are two Things, which I would Remark upon, as very Eminent Disposes of Providence, wherein by Regarding the Operations of the Lord, and Searching out the more hidden Things in the Works of his Hand, as those who Take Pleasure therein; We may find a very wonderful agreement of Providence, with Prophecy in this very Year, and at that Noted time of the Year.

1. The First is, That so Illustrious Providential Revolution, of setting Peace in so many of the Kingdoms (into which the Western Roman Empire hath stood so long divided) after so long a War.

2. The strokes by the supreme ordination of Divine Government in the World, by the Hand of the Prince of *Moscovy*, as a Prince of the Christian Profession (according to those we Call) the *Grecian Churches*; and by the Hand of the Imperial Power, that submits its self to the *Roman Church* (as it is also called) and its *Papacy* upon the *Turkish Empire*.

And on each of these I would make their Particular, and Peculiar Remarks, and First on the First.

Rem. 1. The settling Peace in the Borders of any Nation, and of Nations together, after many Evils, and Harassings of War is a Great Mercy and Goodness of God to those Nations, wherever It is display'd. This is very easily Intelligible, and as easily Acknowledged by the Rejoycings, and Hopeful Expectations from the present Peace, and the Triumphs wherewith it is Receiv'd: And War is Accounted one of the Four Great Judgments of God in the World.

If we then consider, what an unreformed Nation we our selves are, and how unreformed the Nations about us are; It is not according to the usual Method of Providence to Remove Judgments without much Greater Effects of Ruine, or Reformation; What then can we think, but that God bears with Patience the Great Provocations of the Nations of *Europe*? Because they are Kingdoms, that Peculiarly belong to the Kingdom of *Christ*; For the Lamb shall overcome the Ten Kings, into a Voluntary subjection to his *Rev. 17. 14, 16. Kingdom*; Which appears in that, They shall Hate the Whore, and burn her Flesh with Fire. I cannot but hope therefore, God spares them from Ruining one another, because he reserves them for that Time. Thus, because he would make the *Israelites* a Type of the Kingdom of *Christ*; Altho even at the Time of their deliverance from *Egypt*, They Lifted up their Eyes to the Idols of *Egypt*, and God lifted up his Hand to Destroy them, yet he wrought for his Name sake, and did not Destroy them; And so I hope he does now.

Rem. 2. It is certain according to Prophecy, Peace is a Great Signal *Ezek. 20. 9, 10.* of the Kingdom of *Christ*. And such a Time there shall be, When Nations shall beat their Spears into Pruning Hooks, and their Swords into Ploughshares; Nation shall not Lift up Sword against Nation, *Mic. 4.* Nor shall they Learn War any more; They shall sit every Man under his own Vine and Figtree; Jesus Christ is the Prince of Peace, shall be no End, and of the Increase of his Peace, even as of his Government there God will do that Astonishing Thing in the World; He will *Psal. 46. 8.* make Wars to cease to the Ends of the Earth; He will break the Bow

and Cut the Spear in sunder, and burn the Chariots in the Fire ; All the Instruments of Cruelty shall, as by Gods own Hand be brought to an utter End ; He will Still All by his own Appearance, as God, when He in favour of his own People will be Exalted in the Earth ; when He is with his People, as in that City, whose Name is *Jehovah Shammah*, The Lord is there.

Q^r. I know it will be said, There have been many times Treaties of Peace, and that have been Consummated in an effective Peace, and yet no Kingdom of Christ hath succeeded ; what Argument then can it be of such a Kingdom now, That there is such a Peace ?

Ans^r. 1. Yet every Peace is an *Olive Branch*, and a memorial of that Kingdom of Peace ; Even as every Judgment is an assurance of the Last Judgment ; and every War a Fore-runner of the Great Battel at Armageddon, That shall bring All Enemies under the Feet of Christ, and his Saint s.

Ans^r. 2. The certain Argument of such a succeeding Kingdom of Christ does not Lye Singly in a Peace, but in a Peace at such a Time, when by the Line of Time, the Kingdom of Christ is so justly to be Expected ; and so the Line of Time, and the Peace do mutually strengthen, and assure one another ; In the wisdom of Divine Government of the World, There was an Universal Peace under Augustus, at the Time of that First Specimen of the Kingdom of Christ, His coming in the Flesh : It was not by it self a direct Argument of his coming at that Time ; But the Fulness of Time for his Coming, and the Peace did mutually Corroborate one another, and give the Expectation of the Messiah then to appear : And so I hope, it will appear at this Time ; As some Years ago, In the Light of Prophecy, I predicted : The End of this War, whether by breaking the French or by Peace, would be speedily followed by the opening of the Kingdom of Christ.

Rem. 3. This Providential Revolution of the Peace, hath given a stop to the French Kings Aspirings to Universal Monarchy ; Which as (most contrary to the Bounds and Measures Assigned Him by Prophecy, To be but one of Ten Kings and not the whole Ten, a part of the Iron and not the whole Iron ; I have always with greatest confidence, in the very height of the War asserted ; He could never obtain ; But He would find the same Disappointment, the House of Austria found in Charles the Fifth Retreating into Solitude after the attempt, and in His Son Philip of Spain, from that defeat of the Armada 88 Sinking lower and lower to this Day.

Now in and by this Peace, an Eminent Hand of God hath caus'd that Haughty Monarch to Acknowledge ; That he had Coveted an Evil Covetousness, and Increased That, which was not His ; and therefore, tho He hath not been spoiled by the Force of War, or the Prevalency of Victory ; Yet He is made to find ; He hath in Aspiring to set his Nest so High, and to stablish an Universal Monarchy by Blood, Laboured in the very Fire, and wearied himself for very Vanity ; And oh, That that which follows in Prophecy, might now speedily follow in Time, brought to pass by the immediate Hand and Power of God ; That the

Knowledge of the Glory of the Lord might cover the Earth, as the Waters cover the Sea : And then, All that is within his Poor Servants, should Bless his Holy Name : but is it not very Remarkable,

able, that that Prince, who hath Arrogated to Himself in the common Language of his People; *Our Monarch*; as Preparatory to the Style of *Universal Monarch*; should so quietly Resign and Give up his pretensions; and I make no doubt, however Insensibly to himself and others, through the secret Force and Constitution of Prophecy; That the *Western Roman Empire*, that was under one *Cæsar* as Supreme, till it ceas'd in *Augustulus*; and then was to be Variegated into Ten Kingdoms as Ten Toes under One Papal Head, or Supremacy in an Image, as Prophecy styles it most Prophetically, (which it also styles the *Beast*) might so be, till his Time, Times and Half a Time shall be Accomplished; When those very Ten Kings, who gave their Kingdom to him, shall together as Ten, Recall it, and hate the Whore; As therefore Prophecy hath been in this Peace just to its word, They shall be Ten till then; So I doubt not, It will be true in their speedy subjection to the King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, whose Right Alone, It is, to be the truly *Universal Monarch*; And this shall be, when the Ten Kings shall be thus overcome; It is therefore so signally set at that Time, and on that overcoming; He is King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.

And it is much the more Remarkable, That the Great Lord, who hath Times, even as the Hearts of Men and Princes, in his own Hand, should order this Peace in the Year 1697. In which ending, I am bold yet to declare; The Times and Half Determin'd to the Papacy, Expire; So that this Year must be the Ending of Half Time; As then at the Beginning of Half Time, In the Wise and Holy dispose of God; There was by the Emperor Charles V. being King of Spain, and Chosen Emperor of Germany 1519. an offer made at *Universal Monarchy*, and was so Repressed, as hath been spoken, for the making Good of Prophecy; so in the latter End of Half Time, He hath permitted the same Attempt by the French King for some Year's past, and having wearied it all along by the opposition rais'd to it by the Confederacy, upon the very end of Half Time, this very 97, He hath by the Peace given this Boundary to it; That he may shew, He magnifies his Word, (and particularly of Prophecy) above All his Name;

Rem. 4. It deserves just Reflection, That the Time of Negotiating, and Transacting this Peace, must in the nearest and most Conclusive Treaties of it, have run through the Prophetick Hour, viz. From August 15th to the end of that Month, and so into the following Month; So the publick owning and signing of it, was on the very 10th of the Seventh Month, the Day of the Ancient Attonement and Jubilee; and that therein God hath in some measure pleased to own the Reference of his unworthiest Servant to that very Time; Oh, that it might be an earnest of the Acceptable Year of the Lord, as of the Jubilee of his Kingdom Approaching, though, as yet I must Acknowledge, much below my Hopes and Expectations; I cannot yet but add; The Proclamations of Peace in England and France, in this Month of October, Answer in Time in this last Year of Half Time, to Gods Gracious Impulse upon the Spirit of Luther, to Proclaim an open Evangelic War on Antichristian Rome, in the same Month of the First Year of Half Time, viz. 1517. And those, who Joynd to herein with him, were Called *Evangelici*, as in Allusion to the Word us'd in Prophecy, for the Finishing the mystery God had Rev. 10. 7.

Evangelized his Servants the Prophets in, or made them Evangelies concerning, which gives great Ground of Hope, there shall be some Highly Evangelical Product of this Peace, and defiance of Antichristianism by it; Oh! Let us Humbly wait and pray for it.

Rem. 5. It is very Greatly to be remarked, that God was pleas'd in the Last 1688. To have made an Extraordinary (Universally Acknowledged to be so) *Revolution* in these Protestant Nations, of *England, Scotland, and Ireland* in Bar of *Popery* (endeavouring to return upon them) and Universal Monarchy; That hath been owned, confederated, and allyed with by some of the Greatest Princes, that yet *Give their Kingdom to the Beast*; and hath been disputed by the *French King*, from the very Entrance of it, and in continuation, till this *Peace*; And with whom the *Abdicated King*, the Late King *James* hath had his Residence ever since; Now that God hath been pleas'd to own the *Protestant Prince*, this *Revolution* brought in; to sustain him, and these Nations in so Long and Expensive a War, in the midst of many great Losses by *Sea*, in a mutual satisfaction, and confidence one in another; That he hath preserved him in so many Hazardous Passings, and Repassings the *Sea*, in so many Approaches of Danger, and Jeopardyes of Life (as Scripture speaks) in the *High Places of the Field*, where his person was so constantly Adventur'd; That he hath been so secur'd from Private Conspiracys, and Assassinations; and now so Highly Agniz'd, so Publickly, so Solemnly and Augustly by the very *French King*, who made it his Glory to disown Him; and is Returned this very Year of 97. Safe with Publick Tryumphs and Rejoycings in the Peace, equal to the Tryumphs of a Victory, how Glorious soever; Oh, how many Grand Agreements hath all this with *Prophecy*! The attempts of Refunding *Popery* into these Nations, hath been a Design, as Ancient among the *Depths of Satan*, the *Arca-na Imperii*, or Counsels of *Antichristianism*, as the settlement of the *Reformation* here, and by all Imaginable Artifices of Policy and Power; And it seem'd the very *Crisis* for it in that last Reign; That the most High decided against it with so High a Hand, was very Glorious; That God hath given so Great Advantages in Appearance for the Return of King *James* by such a War, so Tedious, so Burdensome, in such an absence of the *King*; And that the whole should be thus resolv'd into so very an *August* Acknowledgment by the Grand opposer of Him; and that the Interest of the same King *James* should be, as it were hush'd into such a silence, and neglect, as now appears, and by his very so Great Allie, is a very Exalted Hand of *Jehovah*, for the Justification of the *Reformation* in these Nations; And that it should be reserv'd for this Year 97. Is an Honourable Character fixed upon this Year (as I hope) Immediately preceeding the entrance of the *Kingdom of Christ*.

Rem. 6. That the War hath been Carryed on by such a Ballance of Equality, that, except we consider that Great Intention of Providence, to confine within his own Figure Allowed by *Prophecy*, the *French King*, (in which It Confederated so many Princes and States, however differing among Themselves) and the securing *Protestancy* to these Nations; Except I say, we consider this; All hath been Labouring in the very Fire, and wearying the Nations for very Vanity; And

And yet God hath, as by an Immediate Hand of his own, Determined All into Peace; This is, I have Great Trust; Because the next Thing he will do, shall be, to Fill the Earth with the Knowledge of his Glory, as the Waters cover the Sea.

Rem. 7. I should Rejoyce to find this Peace Propagating an Universal Reformation of the open prophanesses, and wickednesses of the Nations; Which the Societies for Reformation in this City give some Hopeful Appearances of; and it is much to be desired, The Power of the Magistrate would with it's own Authority and Influence, Encourage such Honourable undertakings: And if it be not so, as I doubt not It will, a Greater Magistracy will Take the matter into its own Hand: But the very Motions however unformed, or Abortive they would, or might prove of Themselves, are some Preliminary Motions to that Great Reformation, the Kingdom of Christ will bring in, when to the People shall be turned a Pure Language; And Men shall Fear the Lord, from the Rising of the Sun to the going down of the same.

Rem. 8. It is Greatly to be Lamented, if the suffering Witnesses of Christ, in any parts Comprehended within this Peace, have found no place of consideration in it and Relaxation by it; But if they have not, I am the more Assured; It is reserv'd for the Immediate Hand of the King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, overcoming the Ten Kings, and moving them, as by an Impulse from himself with the Hatred of the Whore; and He will shew his Servants, as a Light Arising in the darkness of their sufferings yet continuing, the Morning Star in the first Dawns of his Kingdom; Till it shall come to the Bright Morning Star of his own Glorious Appearance in that Kingdom at the Highest Elevation of it.

Rem. 9. It is in the next Place of a most Hopeful Reflection to me, That this Peace Falls, as a Blow upon the League between the French King, and the Turkish Sultan, so as to dissolve it; For as I have heretofore argued, so I shall now more Fully, and yet very Breifly Represent it: The true Account of the Visional order of Breaking the Image, Dan. 2. Is, That the Stone smote the Image on its Feet of Iron and Clay First, and so the whole was broken: This is most Precisely and Definitively set down, v. 34. The Stone Cut out, which is not in Hands, smote the Image upon his Feet, which were of Iron and Clay, and Brake Them to Peices: And again, v. 35. Then was the Iron and the Clay (First) and All the Image Broken, so, that it became as the Chaff of the Summer-Threshing Floor: This therefore from compare of one part of this Prophetick Vision with another, and with the New Testament Prophecy of the Revelation, must be the Order. The First part of the Image smitten is the Iron Feet of the Ten Kings Rev. 17. overcome by the Lamb, and the Called, Faithful, Chosen Witnesses with Him; Then these Ten Kings, who had with one Consent given their Kingdom and Power to the Beast, serve the Lamb by hating the Whore, and burning her Flesh with Fire; This shaking, as an Earthquake, the Great City, and its Decemprincipality, or Tenfold Principality Arising from the Ten Kings, so giving their Power to the Beast, that Carried Her, Falls. Thus the Clay is Broken by the First Approach of the Kingdom of Christ, weilding the Iron, or the Ten Kings to his service: But then All is Threshed and Broken, as into Chaff, by the stone Becoming a Mountain.

in filing the whole Earth; So there remains no Power but Christ's, and his Saints with him, to whom the *Dominion under the whole Heaven is given*.

But now, *v. 45. The Stone cut out of the Mountains without hands, brake in peices first the Iron, then not the Clay, but the Brasi.* The True Order of the Final Stroke was set down before, which could not be changed; what therefore is given, *v. 45. must be some previous and preparatory stroke, that Falls upon the Iron and the Brasi in a Conjunction; and the Greatness, that Each had by that Conjunction, comes to nothing: And by that change of the Order, this Previous Stroke is shaded under the Full and Final Breaking of the whole, and silently intimated by it.* By the *Iron* I understand the *French Power*, in this Great Spread of it self against so many of the *Ten Kingdoms confederated*, as it hath been of late years, and its Aspirings to be the whole *Iron* it self; that is, to *Universal Monarchy*.

And this I look upon to be noted by the *Iron* in this place of *Daniel*; By the *Brasi* I Apprehend the *Grecian Power*, as now in the Hand of the *Turk*; whose *Port* is the *Grecian Constantinople*: Now then this is a *private Prophectical Watch-word* of the very Time, when the whole *Image* shall be Broken; It shall be, when that *Unnatural Conjunction* between Him, who would be the whole *Iron* of the *Feet*, and who will be called the *most Christian King*, and the now *Belly of Brasi*, the *Turkish Power*, the *Professed Enemy* of *Christians*, shall be Broken by the *Stone*, cut out of the *Mountains*, in his *Supreme Providence*, and come to nothing: Now this *Conjunction* we see thus brought to nothing by this *Peace*; the *French King* not able to bear up his Former Pretensions by the *Loss of Turkish Aids*; nor the *Turk* against the *Emperor*, by the *Loss of French Assurances*. And in this very 97. why then should we not look for the whole *Image* to be soon after Broken in its own Just Order now First given? And the Strokes upon the *Turk* in the very Time of the Treaty are Justly to be looked upon as the Proclaiming his *Coming to an End*, and *None to help Him*: Now if this be a True Interpretation of this *Prophectical Vision*, (and I do not see what can be objected to it) what a Great Assurance is it, That in this 97. the Great Change that this *Vision* foretells must needs be very near to come into effect; and who can once imagine, that so *Divine a Vision*, so exactly in every Thing framed, could by Chance, and not without some Great Design, and Purpose, Transpose the *Iron* from the *Feet* of *Iron* and *Clay*, to the *Belly and Thighs of Brasi*, and place the *Clay* of the *Feet* between the *Brasi* of the *Belly*, and the *Silver* of the *Breast*. And I cannot but demand, what Fairer Exposition, or Interpretation of Providential Event, could be given to such a *Prophecy*? Now I must be bold to say, *Whoso hath Wisdom*, let him consider it; *The Wise shall understand*, but the *Prejudiced* and the *Careless will not understand*.

Rem. 10. All this is much the more Remarkable in that Prince, who hath been the severe Enemy, and the open Persecutor of the *Reformation*, and yet continues so; and therefore if the Kingdom of Christ be so near, as these *Comparisons of Prophecy* give hopes; he must either be Removed suddenly by a stroke of Judgment, or by so eminent a Conversion, as *Persecuting Paul* was an

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Hypotyposis, or Pattern of; For he hath Raged even to *Madness* against the *Reformation*, and been *Breathing out Threatnings* against the *Witnesses of it*, and so continues; And yet his *Kingdom* is one of the *Ten*, whose *Kings* shall be overcome by the *Lamb*, and *Hate the Whore*. He must then either be a Great Instance of *Converting Grace*, as it were from *Heaven*, (or of *Judgment*); and seeing the *God of All Grace* is most *Glorious* in the *Former*, and the *Fruit* of it might be much *Greater* in the *World*; I look upon it as our *Duty*, to pray for it, and desire it, if I may not say, to hope for it; That *God*, who hath bowed his *Heart* so far in the *Acknowledgment* of a *Protestant King*, so set up by himself, may please also to Bow his *Soul* to the *Protestant Religion*, and to a *Zeal* for it answerable to his former *Persecutions*, and to this very day.

Now thus far I have Remrak'd upon the *First* of the *Providential Events* of this *Year*, as it is preparatory to the *Kingdom of Christ*, according to the *Interpretation of Prophecy*, That *Prophecies may not be despised*, but All awaken'd Earnestly to *Pray*, and wait for that *Kingdom*; seeing there is so much to be observ'd in this *Providential Revolution of the Peace*, as to be a *Door of hope*, and a *Day of small Things*; and that in this very *Year of 1697*. And I dare not Assume it to be more, I humbly confess, as yet; As in the *Following Observations* upon the *Great Strokes on the Turkish Potentacy*, I shall further *Acknowledge*.

I come now to the *Second Grand Providential Event* of this *Year 1697*: The *severe Strokes*, The *Great Governour of the World*, and *Lord of Hosts*, hath caused by the *Arms of the Czar of Muscovy*, and of the *Emperor of Germany*, to fall upon the *Mahometan Ottoman Signiory*, and to adjust them by *Prophecy* to the near *Approach of the Kingdom of Christ*.

That I may present this in the *Clearest* and most *Compendious Table*, I shall *First* consider *Mahometanism in the General*, as common to the *Saracens and Turks*; and then peculiarly, as it is now seated in the *Ottoman Turkish Empire*, and each in several short *Notes of Observation*; and *Argue from them* the *Great Hopes*, that these *Strokes* upon that *Mahometan Imposture and Tyranny*, are *Fore-Runners of the Final Dissolution of it*, and of the *Kingdom of Christ*, succeeding.

1. The very *Essential State* of this *Imposture and Tyranny*, is design'd by *God*, as a *Mock-Antichrist* to the *Grand Roman Papal Antichrist*, a *Paraselené*, or *Counterfeit Moon* to his *Moon*, even as *Antichrist* is a *mock-Christ*, or in *Despite* to our *True Lord Christ*.

1. *Mahomet* acknowledges *Christ* a *Great Prophet*, even as *Antichrist* does; but robs Him of the *Glory of his Divinity*, and of being the *only Supreme, True Prophet*, wherein He is an *Antichrist*.

2. He *Abhors Idols*; Herein He *mocks Antichristian Idolatry*, but sets up the *Idol-Propbet, Mahomet*; Therein He is an *Antichrist*.

3. He pretends to an *Universal Kingdom*; Herein He *mocks the Papal Antichrist*; One by the *Spiritual*, the other by the *Temporal Sword*, pretends to an *Universal Kingdom*, but both *undermine Christ's Kingdom*, and Both are *Antichrists* therein.

4. He offers a Fools *Paradise*, and Deliverance from Future Misery, but as Counterfeit as the *Popes* Deliverance from Purgatory, by his *Key of the Bottomless Pit*; Herein are they both *Antichrists*, but *Mahomet*, as coming last, and upon the *Papacy*, is a *Mock-Antichrist*, an *Antichrist* in despite.

5. He pretends some Reverence to some of the Sacred Writings, but hath brought in a Nonsensic *Alcoran*, as vain as *Papal Traditions*, and *Oral Laws*.

2. The Time therefore of the Beginning of this *Imposture* and *Tyranny* was soon after the *Papal Supremacy*, the one at 606. the other at 622. The one the *Antichristian*, the other the *Mahometan Hegire*, when its *Tyranny* came forth; while the one lasts, the other lasts also; when the one ends, the other shall end also: If therefore *Antichristian* Times determine in 97. *Mahometan* Times shall determine with them; why then may we not hope, this Blow on *Mahometanism* is an Alarm-Blow upon Both *Antichrists* now ready to Expire?

I come now more particularly to consider the *Ottoman Turkish Power*, and to Remark on that, as more precisely before us in the Events of this Year; and so make these Remarks upon it.

1. The *Ottoman Power* Appear'd in the Greatest Extremity, and lowest Condition of the *Witnesses* after the Great Persecution upon Those we call the *Vaudois*; and the most cruel Slaughter of so many of Them: In Revenge of which, God sent the *Ottoman Power*, to Remonstrate against the *Antichristian Salvagenesses*.

2. They were designed by God to Raise the *Mahometan Imposture* and *Tyranny*, to the Imperial Throne of *Eastern Rome*, or *Constantinople*. C. 11. 45. This is expressed by *Daniel*, as the planting the *Tabernacle* of his *Pallace* between the Seas, in the Glorious *Holy Mountain*, so Honourably styled, because it was the *City of Constantinople*, that First *Christian Emperor*, and Great Type of the *Kingdom of Christ*; This was in the Year 1453.

3. The *Ottoman Emperor*, *Selymus*, in, or upon the First Year of the Reformation, 1517. seized upon *Judea* and *Jerusalem*, styled by *Daniel*, Ch. 11. 41. the *Glorious Land*.

4. There is an Absolute Determination of God; This *Mahometan Ottoman Prince* shall come to his End, C. 11. 45.

Seeing this is so determined, we have Reason to look upon this very Year as the Year of his Approaching end, on these Reasons.

1. The *Mahometan Ottoman Emperor*, Coming in as a Judgment upon *Papal*, *Antichristian Cruelty*, and Advanced to the Throne of the *Eastern Roman Empire*, That he might be a *Mock Antichrist* to the Grand *Antichrist* in the West; He must in all the Reason and Sense of *Prophecy*, be Limited to the Times of the First *Antichrist*; Because, when the Sin is Removed, The Judgment shall be Removed also; And when the True Lord and *Christ* shall Consume the Great *Antichrist* by the Breath of his Mouth, He will Consume All other *Antichrists* with Him: If then the Times of the *Papal Antichrist*, shall End in this 1697. The *Mahometan* shall End in it also.

2. Accordingly we find ; The Time Assigned to the Ottoman Power standing prepared to obtain, and to hold in possession that *Roman Eastern Empire*, will exactly agree from the Time of His Rising with the End of *Antichristian Times* ; For let us with the best and most of *Chronologers*, Date his Rising to the Year 1300. And Prophecy Assigns to him for the obtaining, and holding the *Grecian Empire* under his Power, an Hour, a Day, a Month, a Year ; Which by Fair *Prophetical Computation* make up 397 Years, and so must end 1697.

3. The seizing on *Jerusalem* just at the *Reformation*, when the last 180 Years, or *Half Time of Antichristianism* entered, is a very Hopeful Argument to me, That this *Ottoman* Term of Power is this Year to End ; For there is a Concurrence of Three Great Periods, according to that very seizure of *Jerusalem* by the *Ottoman* Power in the Year 1517. Which Fall on this very Year 1697.

The Period of the *Antichristian Times*, in the last *Half Time* being Remark'd, as by the *Reformation*, so by the Particular stroke of God on the *Papal Antichrist*, in the seizure of such a Place, to which so High a Devotion is pretended by the Grand *Antichrist* into the Hand of the *Mock Antichrist*, and who Himself, to shew Himself a *Mock-Antichrist*, made the same pretence of Devotion to, and at it ; As History Reports of *Selymus*, that *Turkish Sultan*, who seized it : And it is worthy observation, That the Enlargement of the *Ottoman Empire* at that Time, and in those Parts, and Particularly on the *Holy City* and *Land*, Gave the Fair and Plausible pretension to the *Papal* Raising Money by *Indulgences* to withstand and resist it ; Which odious Cheat of *Indulgences* gave the Great Advantage to the *Reformation*, as is well known ; And it gives much Encouragement to Hope ; So Eminent a Configuration against *Antichristianism*, as of the taking *Jerusalem*, and the *Reformation*, and the latter so Derived from the Former, upon the Year 1517. Gives it an undoubted Title to be the Beginning of *Half Time*, or the Last 180 Years of *Antichristianism*, and so to be at an End this 1697.

2. The Period of the *Jewish Captivity*, and *Jerusalem*s being Trodden under Foot of All Nations ; For seeing those Times upon *Judea* and *Jerusalem*, are Bounded by the *Gentiles Times Fulfilled*, and that the Time of the *Antichristian Apostacy*, are peculiarly by Prophecy Branded, as *Gentiles Times of Treading under Foot the Holy City* : If the *Antichristian Half Time* (which is its last) Began 1517, and Ends 1697. Consequently the last 180 Years of *Jewish Captivity*, and *Conculcating*, or *Trampling under foot*-Times must end, and Consequentially also, *Mahometan* Times, that hold *Jerusalem* and *Judea* under that *Conculcation*, must end at the same time too.

3. The Period of *Mahometan* Times Themselves, must be found in this very 1697. For then the Time of *Turkish* planting the *Tabernacle of his Palace*, in the *Glorious Holy Mountain*, Ceases ; And *Constantinople* shall Return to its Former Glory under *Constantine*, and be a Grand City in the *Kingdom of Christ* ; The taking therefore of *Constantinople*, drew so near to the Time of the *Reformation* at the last *Half Time of Antichrist*, to Foreshew, Both those *Antichrists of East and West*, shall be consumed together in 1697 Ending.

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4. That Complication of Power, that seems at this Time to be Gathering against the *Ottoman Empire*, looks like a Hopeful Symptom, Their End is now Approaching: For so *Daniel* describing his End, says, *Tydings out of the East and North shall Trouble Him*, and then the Conclusion of All is, *He shall come to his End, and none shall help Him*. Now, how very exactly does this agree with the present Juncture, *Viz.* The Combination of the *Muscovian* Forces on one side with the *Imperial* on the other side, in the same Design of bringing Him down: And what may come upon Him from *Poland*, He is not Insensible of; Now All these Trouble Him; And that unnatural Aid He had from *France* is deserting Him; So that Things make up the very Aspect of that *Prophetic Vision* of *Daniel* upon Him.

5. If we consider the *Muscovian Prince*; He is of that Profession of Christianity found among those we Call the *Greek Churches*, who, though *Rev. 12. c. 13.* they are the other *Wing* of the *Roman Eagle*, or *Empire*, that Carried the *Church* into the *Antichristian Wilderness*, and the other *Horn* of that *Lamb*, that spake as a *Dragon*, yet the *Antichrist* it self settled, in what is Called the *Western*, or *Latin Rome*, and the other are not under the Black Brand of that: These two parts of the *Roman Empire* are styled in Relation to one another, *The Rest of Men*; And it is said of the *Antichristian Rest* of Men, *Rev. 9. ult.* Notwithstanding the Judgment on the *Eastern Rome*, *c. 11. 13.* They Repented not; But of the *Rest of Men* of the *Eastern Part*, when they saw the Judgment on the *Western Babylon*, or *Rome*, they were Affrighted, and Gave Glory to the God of Heaven by Repentance, which speaks to me in short *Prophetical Language*, the Restitution of the *Grecian Churches*; And it immediately follows; *The Second*, that is, *The Mahometan woe is past*; I Rejoyce therefore, That God hath made use of a Prince of the *Grecian* Profession, so Victoriously over the *Mahometans*, by whom they are now held in slavery.

6. The *Imperial Power*, though yet given according to *Prophecy* to the *Beast*, is yet made use of in the Sense, It is said; *The Earth helped the Woman in Drinking up the Mahometan Flood*; The Judgment falls especially on the *Civil*, and Ecclesiastic *Antichristian State*, and therefore it doth its utmost to resist it; and particularly God hath made use of the *German Emperor*, as a *Bullwark* of the *Western Roman Empire* against the *Mahometane* and I hope The *Empire* shall yet become an eminent part of the *Kingdom of Christ*.

7. That Great turn God hath pleased to make in the *Spirit*, and Victoriousness of the *Ottoman Power*, from so High a Tyde to so low an Ebb; And under this very present Prince, who seemed to recollect All its former prowess and magnanimity, but it hath proved like a last effort, or as they speak, like a *Lightning before Death*.

8. The weight and severity of the stroke in so great a slaughter, and as by an immediate Hand of Gods own, as in Times of old on his Enemies; Terror upon them, Casting them Headlong into the River, Does I hope Intimate a near approaching Final Destruction; And that All this is come to pass in this Year 1697. According to the *Line of Time*, and in those Remarkable Months

Months we Call *August*, and *September*, and in the very prophetic Hour of *August*. I have so Remark'd upon; and so upon the Time of the Scripture *Prophecy*; In All which I cannot but hope, God hath been pleas'd to take off much of the Scandal of my mistake; And this is the Consummating Reason of my Hope.

I have now dispatched the Second Head of this *Apology*, and come to the Third; Or what, It is I expect, when *Time shall be no more*, but for the *Finishing of the mystery of God*; Which I shall but just represent in the several uses, the Spirit of God makes of the *Word Mystery* in the *New Testament*; And shew, That the *Mystery of God* in every of those Things, shall be *Finished in the Kingdom of Christ*, Beginning and Going on to open it self into its Fullest Glory.

1. The Gospel, the Comprehensive *Mystery*, the *Mystery of Faith*, of Godliness; The *Mystery of God*, of the *Father*, of *Christ*; With All its Divine and Glorious Truths, The *Mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven*; shall be *Finished*, by the Full Revelation of it in the *Everlasting Gospel*, Preached to every Nation under Heaven; And particularly in that Branch, *Christ Received up into*, or rather for Glory, *Viz.* The Glorious manifestation of Himself, upon which the *Apostacy* hath so long layn as an Eclipse, and Delay.

2. The *Mystery of the Union* betwixt Christ and Believers, in the Spiritual Marriage, shall be Finished in the *Bride*, the *Lamb's Wife*, making her self Ready, and the *Marriage-Supper of the Lamb*.

3. The *Mystery of the Gentiles*, Universally brought in, and illustriously united as a *σύνωμον*, or *One Body* with the *Israel of God*.

And further, The *Eclipse* taken off, that is yet upon the *Gentile Churches*, and their return to a Full orb'd Light, according to the Promises made to the Churches in the Glorious Kingdom of Christ.

4. The *Mystery of Reconciliation*, Reception, Salvation, and Fulness of All *Israel*, when that Full Glory of the Gentiles is; Then shall be a Great Appearance of the Fulfilling All the Great promises, and Prophecys we find in both the *Old and New Testament* to that People; when the *Gentiles Times are Fulfilled*, as was Noted; a Summary Assurance of which is the very Name of that City, The *New Jerusalem*.

5. The *Mystery of the Seven Churches*, as *Seven Golden Candlesticks*, in the midst of which The Son of Man walks, and the *Seven Stars* of the *Evangelick Ministry*, seen in his Right Hand, in all the Glory of each; The *Seven Churches*, as Types of the Churches, of the New Testament successively with their *Angels*; And comprehending under them Those *Grecian Churches of Asia*, All brought into the Glory and Purity of the *Philadelphian Church*; and the *New Jerusalem*, the City of our God coming down into it, shall then be fully Finished.

6. The *Mystery of the Antichristian Church*, City, and the whole *Hierarchy* of it, with All its *Abominations*, shall be laid open, understood of All, and come to an utter end by the mighty Spirit of Christ's Mouth, by the Brightness of his Appearance, and by the Judgments, He will execute according to *Rev. 17.* and *C. 18.* On the *Womans Forehead* was written *Mystery*, The *Mystery of the Woman*, and the *Beast that Carried Her*, and the Judgment of the Great *Whore*, were made known

to John by the *Angel*, and it shall be a *Mystery Finished*, that is, Laid open and brought to an utter End.

7. The *Mystery* of the *Divine will* in *Recapitulating*, and *Recollecting All Things* in *Heaven*, and *Earth* in *Christ*, even in *Him*, as the *Head*; in the fullness of *Times*, of *All Times* (that is) in the *Glorious Thousand Years-Kingdom* of *Christ*, *Eph. 1. 10.*

8. The *Mystery* of the *Living Saints changed*, who shall Inherit the *New Earth*, during the *1000 Years*, and *walk in the Light* of the *New Heavens*, or *Jerusalem above*, in the sight of *Christ*, and of his *Saints* of the *First Resurrection*, and in *Bodys* every way *Proportioned* to that *Blessed State*, and *Healed with the Leaves* of the *Tree of Life*; This the *Apostle* shews, as a *Great Mystery*, *1 Cor. 15.*

Now other then these eight Great uses of the word *Mystery*, or what is most clearly referring to Them, I do not find in *Scripture*; and seeing the *Spirit of Prophecy* hath so comprehensively used the word *Mystery* concerning its *Finishing*, and that each of these things is *Styled Mystery* in the *Gospel*, and shall have so certain a *Consummation*, and *Complement* in the *Kingdom of Christ*, We may very well *Expound* the one by the other, and be sure of their coming into their *Finishing*, when *Time* of a former sort, that is, of the *Time, Times, and Half Time* shall be no more; And because there are such direct assurances of the *Finishing* of each of these in the *Prophecy* of the *Revelation*, How clear is it!

And now I come to the *Fourth* and *Last Head*; To give the duest and justest *Apology* concerning no more Appearance of the *Finishing of the mystery of God*, in All these Great mentions of it, already in this Year 1697; And to adjust between the *Humblest Acknowledgment* of my own mis-understanding in what Hath fallen so much below; and yet with equal *Acknowledgment* of what hath been already reflected upon to have passed, as an *Earnest* and *Pledge*; And wherein yet I have sure Grounds (as I most *Humbly* conceive and believe) in the *sure word of Prophecy* concerning 97. And hereof I will give *Account* in this short, but yet full *Declaration* of my self, and of my *Sense* herein.

The Year 1697. I must still look upon, as I have all along Remonstrated to be the very Year, in which the *Time, Times, and Half Time* of the *Antichristian Apostacy*, and of the 1260 Years of the *Witnesses in Sackcloth*, and of the *Church in the Wilderness* are to *Expire* and *End*.

But now, whether in the *Beginning* of the Year 97. as I first Hoped, or towards the *Middle* of the Year, on the *Twenty Third* of the Month, we call *August*, Answering to the *Twenty Third* of the same Month, 476. on which the *Roman Western Empire* ceased in *Augustulus*, as I had Entertained Hopes, when I found no such Appearances in the *Beginning* of the Year; or that in, and with the very *Ending* of the present 1697: the aforementioned Terms *Expire*. *Solomon* says, *The Desire of a Man is his Kindness*. I desire with all *Sense* of *Unworthyness* to speak it; *The earnest desire of my Soul* in *Love* to the *Kingdom of Christ*, and the *Hope* of it deferred, making my *Heart even sick*, excited my *Zeal* to prefer the *Times*, that I had any Reason to pitch upon, that were nearest: And this, as I now find, produced the *mistake*, which I desire with All *Self-Humiliation* to confess before *God*, his *People*, and

and to own it as a Rebuke from Him ; Though I trust, in Love, that I might not trust in my own understanding, or be any way Exalted in any Communications from his Word, but Lye low before Him ; and that his Truth, and Wisdom may be seen in my Folly and Weakness ; and in this regard I take pleasure in it ; That his Power may Graciously yet Tabernacle over me, and *His strength be perfected in my weakness, and his Grace sufficient for me* ; Under this Correction, I have come to consider ; That this Year 97, must perfectly run out, Ere the Time, Times and Half a Time, the 1260 Days, and the 42 Months End ; And that, as God appointed the Beginning of the Sacred *Israelitish* Year, to be in the Month *Nisan*, or about the *Vernal Equinox* ; And that this was the Time of the Children of *Israel*, Going out of the Bondage of *Lit eral Egypt* ; So that the Slavery under *Spiritual Egypt* should end with the Year, and Deliverance begin in 98. beginning.

2. I always Accounted ; The *Apocalyptical Epoch*, or the Beginning of Times Given in the *Prophecy of the Revelation*, take Their Commencement from the Day of the *Lords Resurrection* ; which falls in, as is well known with the Beginning of the *aforenamed Israelitish* Year ; and consequently, the Beginning of the 1260 Years must be at the same time of the Year ; and consequently also, They must there end ; when therefore they are ended, In the beginning of the Following Year 98. shall the *Passseover* from *Spiritual Egypt* be Celebrated by the *Spirit of Life on the Witnesses* ; Proportionably shall Follow the *Pentecost of the Spirit poured out* ; Proportionably also shall follow the *Fall of the Greai City* in the Month call'd *August*, at the Cessation of the *Beasts Months*.

3. Herein shall be seen the Exactness of Divine Truth, and of the Justness of *Christ* to his Oath, That there should be Time, Times, and *Dan. 12. Half a Time* to the utmost Hour ; The *anticristian* State then Ending with the End of 97. In the very Beginning of 98. The *Sun of Righteousness* shall come from under the Eclipse by the *Moon of Anticbrist*, and shine out with *Healing in his Wings* ; and so Things go forward to the *Kingdom of Christ*. And then comes in the other Oath Indented with it ; *Time of such sorts shall be no more, Rev. 10.*

If any should say, How if you are mistaken in the Beginning of 98, as you was in 97. The Answer I must make, is, I should then lay my Hand upon my Mouth, and say with *Job*, I am vile ; Once, yea, Twice have I spoken ; But I will do so no more : I would, through Grace, Repent, and abhor my self in Dust and Ashes before God, as having provoked Him so Justly to Deny his Presence and Powerful Attestation, to what I have declared out of his word ; Because He was not pleased to Lead me to the true Interpretation of it ; And yet I can no more be perswaded, the Appearance of that Kingdom of *Christ*, I have so much spoken of, can be far off, then I can be perswaded, The *Prophecy of Daniel* and the *Revelation* are not true ; Because I find so Great Assurance, the whole Scope and Tendency, and the order of the *Visions*, and so many and great Events Recorded in undoubted *History* and *Chronology*, do so set it beyond all doubt, That this Kingdom must be near Approaching ; But if the

the Humble hopes, I have in the End of this, and the Beginning of the Following Year, and Prayers for it be not Answered; I shall look upon my self obliged, to Acknowledge; The very particular Year, when it shall be, God hath hidden from the most Humble and Industrious search, and Enquiry into the Prophecy of Scripture concerning it, which I have the Testimony of Conscience, I have waited upon Him in.

Obj. If it be said, why will you then having been confessedly in an Error concerning the Former parts of the Year 97. Presume on the End of it, and so of the Beginning of 98.

Ans. 1. Because I find all the Great Reasons, I have Founded my Determination for 97 upon, stand as Good and as Firm for the End of it, and for the Entrance of the Kingdom of Christ in the Beginning of 98; as in any other part of 97. And in this Regard more Firm, that hereby the Computation of Years from the Resurrection of our Lord, which is the Apocalyptick Epoch is more Ascertained; It is more certainly known where to Begin and where to End: Hereby it is known, the 2300 Eves, Morns of Years, Dan. 8. Begin in the Vernal Beginning of each Year, and so End, where the following Year Begins. That the 1260 Years of the Witnesses Sackcloth-Prophecy, and of the Churches Wilderness-State must Begin, and End so; And that the Forty two Moons of the Gentiles and of the Beast, must be Correspondently Governed; and so the mistake of August the 23 was only in a Circumstance; as if the Lunar Years of the Beast, might have begun there and so end there. But if the Beginning of all Account of Apolyptical Time, and so of the End, be the Beginning of each Year in the Spring; Then must the Event Answering the 23d of August, when the Roman Western Empire ceased, Fall into the Year, not of the last of the 1260, Because the Time of the Months will not be run out, while the Last is Current; but The first Year of the New Era of Time, for Finishing the Mystery, and when the Seventh Angel shall begin to Sound, must produce that Great Event in that Month, we Call August; and follow the Rising of the Witnesses in the Beginning of that Year, Answerable to our Lords Resurrection; and the Pouring out of the Spirit, Answerable to the Apostolic Pentecost; and so the Fall of the Beastian Power, and his Months quite darkened, Answerable to that 23d of August when they began.

But if there had been the Change of the very Year it self, and so the Loss of it. The very Frame of my Scripture Line it self must have been altered; If the Year 97 Must end it self, that that whole Course of Time may end, and a new one begin in the Spring of the following Year, and the Finishing, our Lord in that Vision, Rev. 10. speaks of, Begin with it; All stands clear and firm in the main; And for this therefore I wait and pray.

Ans. 2. When I duly consider the Imperial Victory, not only as I have already spoken of it, but as I have kept in Reserve till now; That it is to be compar'd, as with the Time of the Cessation of the Western Empire of Rome in Augustinus, so with the Determination of Prophecy upon, and with Relation to that Cessation, and what it Intended, and Designed upon it; I can-

cannot but Acknowledge a very Extraordinary Hand of God in it; and such
shows a peculiar Regard to it, and gives a Pledge of Future Expectation
upon it; so that I cannot with Just Estimation of, and Acknowledgment due
to that, lay down either my Hopes, or publick Testimony concerning this
Year Ending, and the Following Beginning.

First then, I consider the Time of this *Imperial Victory*, I have so far, and
I hope not without Great Weight Remark'd upon: and I find the *Imperial*
Army so in motion and preparation for it, by the most Certain and Va-
luable Intelligences we have Receiv'd of it, from our 23d of *August*: and
the very *Victory* it self upon the 31st of that Month, according to our
Old Style Account, within the Virge of the *Prophetical Hour*, that I cannot
but stand in Humble Admiration at it: For every one of the Armies to
that very Day of *Victory* it self, is to be enfolded with, and united to
it; So that herein is in undeniable Matter of Fact, an Agreement thus far
in Time.

Obj. I know the difference of *New* and *Old Style* may be objected; and that
the *New Style*, as being the *Reformation of the Calendar* is most Exact: And that
from this the *Prophetical Hour* in the *Sixth Month*, and so the *Imperial Victory*
Flies further off by the *Ten Days* difference; and the *Peace* in the *Seventh*
Month from the Day of *Attonement* and *Jubilee*.

Ans. 1. But in Answer to this, It is nothing strange, If God is pleased to
neglect that *Papal Reformation of the Calendar*, as coming within that usurpation
of his *Changing Times*, *Dan. 7. 25*, Who would not Reform his *Changing of*
Laws, even those *Eternal ones of the Word of God*; Although he must needs
see a *Divine Hand* had gone some considerable Number of Years before Him in
such a *Reformation*, by *Luther*, and other eminent Servants of his, *Churches* and
States, viz. from 1517. to 1582. But He, who by his Great Works of Provi-
dence, *changes Times and Seasons* with Supreme Right, Justice and Authority,
or Retains them, pleases to Honour the *Old Style* with peculiar Respect to
this Protestant Nation, that still uses it.

Ans. 2. Although some Times God in his Great Works observes Time to
the self same Day; yet at other Times, He may, as he pleases, make some
Variation; as *Solomon's Beginning to build the Temple*, is dated 2 *Chron.*
3. 2. On the second Day of the second Month from the Going of the Children of
Israel out of Egypt, which was on the Self-same day of the Fourteenth of the
First Month: This shews God sometimes is pleased to Allow a Latitude: I
cannot therefore but most Humbly Adore Divine Goodness, in Approaching
so near with so Eminent a Providence, as so compleat a Victory over the
Power of the *Eastern Antichrist*, so Acknowledged an Enemy to the Gospel of
our Lord *Jesus Christ*, upon the Time Remark'd by the Unworthiest Mi-
nister of his Kingdom.

Ans. 3. But it is much more considerable, That the Gracious God hath, by
Striking that *Mock- Antichrist* so near that very Day of the Cessation of the
Western Empire, in the Year 476; yielding Rist to the 42 Months of the *Beast*,
and the *Ten Kings*; given Warning, that according to the True Adjustment

You hath been pleased to do this Year, &c.

of Lunar Time to Solar, Their Space of Reign then, strictly speaking, ended, and that was their last *August* of Power; and before the Comling of that Month, in the following Year, They shall be in Subjection to the King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.

Ans. 4. It is most Remarkable, That the Effective Treaties of the Peace at *Reswick*, and the Victory over the *Turks* by the Imperial Forces were very near together, by which our Wise and Holy God was pleased to shew; That He would dissolve that Union between the *French King*, that would have been the whole *Iron*, or an *Universal Monarch*, as hath been said, and the *Brafs* of the *Graco-Turkish Potentacy*, and bring that Potentacy Low at the same time; and that by both He would preserve, as hath been before Argued, the *Ten Kingdoms of the Western Empire*, till They shall as *Ten* be Overcome by the *Lamb* at the Expiration of their Term with the *Beust* now so near Expiring.

And it is indeed very observable That as in the disposing of our True God, the Power of the *Eastern Empire* was Thrown early after the settlement of the *Ten Kingdoms* in the *West*, out of the *Western Empire*, and the *Exarchate of Ravenna* made to cease for many Great Services, and Ends according to Prophecy; So although in a way of Judgment, God hath suffered *Mohometan*, particularly *Turkish* Eruptions into it, especially in *Hungary*, and *Transylvania*; Yet he hath still Reprimanded them, and the Attempts of the Greatest Princes among them, as of their *Magnificent Solymán* upon *Vienna*, was shamefully disgraced; and from the Last Befailing of it in the Year 80 That Empire hath been Tottering and shaking: Because therein it hath dared to pass the Bounds set it by Prophecy; Although it hath entered into the *Holy Land*, *Egypt* hath not escaped, *Ethiopia* hath been at its steps; Yet it never could stretch its Hands, as over other Countreys, Or overflow to *Vienna*, much less to *Rome* carried Alonght by the *Papal* *East*. This Stroke therefore hath so overtaken and surrounded the *Turkish Armies* in *Hungary*, as if God would give Testimony; That at the same time He preserved the *Ten Kingdoms* from the Aspirings of an *Universal French Monarchy* by the Peace, He would also Vindicate Them from the Overspread of a *Mohometan Turkish Overflow*. In all which the wonderful Doings of our Great, and Holy God, ought to be Triumph'd in by All His Servants; and most especially by the Unworthiest of his Servants in the Sure Word of Prophecy, as happy Forebodes of his Kingdom at the End of 97. and the beginning and Going on of 98

And now upon All that hath been spoken, I cannot but Rejoyce, in Recalling that Prophecy I have some Years ago in a former Treatise enlarged upon; Found in the Study of *Justus Lipsius*, Ann 1606. and that hath been near Fifty Years Extant in the Exposition of Dr. *Meyer* on those Books of Scripture, called, *The small Prophets*; which I will again here Transcribe, for more universal Notice, because I know It to be founded on Greatest Reason of Scripture, and Assured by the *Chronology of Propheic Events*, and therefore I cannot but Think the Composer Assisted by a *Prophetic Spirit*.

The

The Original Prophecy.

*Post Mille Expletos a Partu Virginis Annos,
Et post sexcentos Rursus ab Orbe Datos:
Nonagesimus octavus, Mirabilis Annus
Ingruet; Is secum Gaudia Lata feret.
Corruet Hoc Anno Turcarum Invisa propago,
Roma Tuum in Libris Fabula Nomen Erit.
Omniaque subvertunt Mundi, sursum, atq; Deorsum
Imperia, ut populos sceptrum Novella premant:
Utq; suum cunctas Verbum Diffundat in oras
Christus; & Imperitet Nomine Ubique suo.*

The Translation.

*From Virgins Son Six Thousand Years when Told,
And after them a Hundred more are Roll'd,
Then Ninety Eight a Year of wonders comes,
And Joys on Joys it heaps to vastest Sums:
The Hated Stem of Turks that Year shall Fall,
Oh Rome, in sacred Books Foretold Men All
Shall Call thy Name that Lye; Earths Empires move
Their upside down; a Novel Empire proves
The Universal Monarchy; Then Christ
To us Everlasting Gospel giving Rite,
Shall through All Tongues and Kindreds it diffuse,
And for Imperial style his own Name use.*

I would now conclude all, with earnest desires of the constant Fervent Prayers of the Servants of God, for the speediest Answer of that Petition; *Thy Kingdom Come; Come Lord Jesus Come quickly*; and with my humblest request in some Variation from the Apostles Words; *Let no Man trouble me*; For I bear upon my Mind and Condition, the Stigmata, or marks of the *Kingdom of Christ yet in Delay*: Upon the Account of which I can in some measure say; The present State of this World is *Crucified to me, and I to it.*

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